

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) Pathological improvement food for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds, which contains, as basic ingredients, more than 5% by weight of water-soluble indigestible polysaccharides as exploited by intestinal bacteria in terms of dried foodstuff and has restricted addition of protein components.

2. (Currently Amended) Pathological improvement food for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to Claim 1, wherein said food-~~which~~ contains more than 5% by weight of indigestible polysaccharides in terms of dried foodstuff and protein components restricted to 8% or less by weight.

3. (Original) Pathological improvement food for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein said indigestible polysaccharides are one kind selected from pectine, polydextrose, alginic acid, fucoidan, chitin, chitosan, testa-derived hemicellulose, acacia gum, arum root-derived mannan, agar, and sugar alcohol and polymers of sugar alcohol.

4. (Original) Pathological improvement food for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 2, wherein said indigestible polysaccharides contains at least polydextrose and pectine with a ratio of 0.05 to 100 parts by weight of pectine to 100 parts of polydextrose.

5. (Original) Pathological improvement food for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to any of claims 1, 2 and 4, further containing at least one of trace metal, vitamin and fat.

6. (Original) Pathological improvement food for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 3, further containing at least one of trace metal, vitamin and fat.

7. (Original) Pathological improvement food for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to any of claims 1, 2 and 4, which food is formed in beverage, biscuit, cookie, cake, ice cream, sherbet, bread, noodle or jelly.

8. (Original) Pathological improvement food for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 3, which food is formed in beverage, biscuit, cookie, cake, ice cream, sherbet, bread, noodle or jelly.

9. (Original) Pathological improvement food for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 5, which food is formed in beverage, biscuit, cookie, cake, ice cream, sherbet, bread, noodle or jelly.

10. (Original) Pathological improvement food for lowering blood concentration of low-molecular-weight nitrogen-containing compounds according to claim 6, which food is formed in beverage, biscuit, cookie, cake, ice cream, sherbet, bread, noodle or jelly.